

**REGIONAL DANCE AMERICA/PACIFIC  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
September 15, 2007 - Long Beach, CA**

**Call to Order:** 9:05am

**Roll Call:** Ann Derby, Petaluma City Ballet; Debra Rogo, Mid Columbia Ballet; Sara Lombardi, Eugene Youth Ballet; Lynn Brennan Tabor, Portland Youth Ballet; Patricia Stander, Dance Peninsula Ballet; Zoura O'Neill, Petaluma City Ballet; Lawan Morrison, Peninsula Dance Theatre; Barbara Crockett, Crockett-Deane Ballet; Allyson Deane, Crockett-Deane Ballet; John Gardner, Pacific Festival Ballet; Shauna Peterson, Utah Regional Ballet II; Susan Sandri, Whidbey Island Dance Theatre; Jan Hurst, Columbia Dance Company; Lynn Hollister, South Bay Ballet; Mary Simoens, South Bay Ballet; David Wilcox, Long Beach Ballet; Diane Cypher, Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre; Helen Wilkins, Olympic Ballet Theatre; Kathleen Sinclair, Ballet Yuma; Allison Gustafson, State Street Ballet Young Dancers; Terri Miley, Parliamentarian, Mid Columbia Ballet; Diane Lauridsen, South Bay Ballet

**Reading of Minutes:** Ann Derby  
Minutes approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report** – Helen Wilkins (See attached reports)

- Helen redid budget using our fiscal year-end dates 8/1/06 to 7/31/07
- When reporting to the IRS not good to change dates to work with fiscal year if reporting on the Form 990.
- This past year \$121,000.00 went through the account due to National Festival.
- Those figures put us over the \$25,000 limit so this year our income will be at \$28,000, and we are required to report on the Form 990.
- A new line item will be added for the IBC reserve so that it shows correctly in the budget.
- Balance Sheet shows \$44,929.78
- Company membership dues are due today – September 15, 2007
- Still outstanding: Pacific Festival Ballet, Peninsula Dance Theatre.

**New Committee:** Jan Hurst and Patricia Stander will help advise our treasurer in researching our investment account and try to get more interest

**Board Report:** Ann Derby

- Budget was approved for Festival 2009
- Festival 2010 was given until Spring 2008 to present budget

**Membership Issues:** Pacific Festival Ballet

- John Gardner spoke first to the situation between himself and Chris and Lynn Tabor. He was also sorry he had not met us before. His first festival was Bremerton but as he was ill he was unable to attend. He did go to the National Festival in Pittsburgh but was not invited to meetings. He has had a meeting with his board of directors and two lawyers. They reviewed all the files, letters etc. His lawyers were surprised

that the division in membership was even at issue. Mr. Gardner has been the Artistic Director for 25 years; Chris and Lynn Tabor were hired and then were given the title of Associate Directors last year for recognition of their work. They have been employees of the non-profit organization.

- The question that the Pacific Festival board asked us is did we understand that the Tabors were not the Artistic Directors?
- Yes, we understood that John Gardner was the Artistic Director.
- The Tabors were the one's who pursued RDA membership although one of his board members also worked on getting the membership in place.
- After Bremerton, Mr. Gardner knew that RDA/P was a good place to be.
- Mr. Gardner feels that his company is the legitimate company and that the Tabor's need to come in as a new company. He has more than enough dancers to fulfill the requirements of RDA membership. The lawyers who read the Tabor's letter felt it was slanderous etc. John's members feel it would be a gross injustice if the Tabor's came in without going through the new member process.

The membership asked John why he did not come to the meetings in Pittsburgh. He responded that the letters were not put in his box.

Jan Hurst spoke as she is a close neighbor to both companies:

- Pacific Festival Ballet would like to retain membership and would prefer that the Tabor's company, Portland Youth Ballet, go through the evaluation process to come into the region as a new company. John was present at his adjudication last year.
- What caused the split? The Tabors offered to buy his school but the price was not at market value and their offer was rejected. The Tabors were fired in June 2007 as they were not following the guidelines that John set forth for his students.
- We asked if John had asked them to purchase the school. John's reply was no.

#### **Lynn Tabor spoke for Portland Youth Ballet**

- Lynn and Chris enjoyed their relationship with RDAP. They feel it's important for their dancers.

Comments from membership: Patricia Stander felt that there was no intention to misrepresent themselves as Artistic Directors of Pacific Festival Ballet.

- The decision to apply for RDAP was the Tabor's idea
- When they first came to John's school, there was no dress code, nor syllabus. They helped John put that in place.
- After some performances they felt the dancers were ready to join RDAP – but the Tabors were asked by John as to “why would we want to do that?”
- The Tabors went ahead with the project even though there wasn't a lot of interest on John's part.

John wants Chris and Lynn to start over. He did not say that he didn't want them to be members.

- When trying to purchase the school the Tabors said they met with John, and his lawyer told them to come back with figures. A month later they came back to the table; John had not gotten any figures, so they backed off.
- Nothing happened so the Tabors suggested a sister school and the opportunity to collaborate on productions.
- They were bcked out of the office, so the situation became untenable and very negative. The Tabor's accountant said basically that no answer is a no.
- Chris and Lynn do not have non-profit status as of now. They do have Stage One Productions. Portland Youth Ballet is registered under that umbrella which was registered in May 2007. The IRS has sent them their paperwork but they need one more piece of paper filed then they will be final.
- The Tabors said they had told John that they wanted him to remain as Founding Director and to teach whatever classes he wanted to etc.

The split could be either a division of the company or a new company.

Under RDA/P By-Laws –D - Re-Evaluation

b. Division within a Member Company

In the event of a division within a Member Company (Performing Professional or Performing), either as governing body, Artistic Director, company personnel, or all of these; each group resulting and/or continuing from such a division must be evaluated as prescribed in these by-laws for membership in this corporation; and in such an event, transfer of Honor Company status, or credit(s) toward same to any resulting company shall be determined by the RDA/P Performing Members.

The membership asked what Lynn wanted to do?

- They would like their company to be considered a split (division) and that both companies are allowed to evaluate and perform at the 2008 festival; to not go through the evaluation process as a new company and to be placed in whatever category the membership decides.
- We would have to waive the one year requirement regarding non-profit status for Portland Youth Ballet. Not possible within a division for one company to have their non-profit status quickly.
- Is this a division or is Portland Youth Ballet a new company?
- Barbara felt that PYB is a new company
- David felt that they are both good companies and would be good for the organization
- Helen felt that John was the old company.
- The membership felt that John hired the Tabors and they built the company that we saw.
- The question was brought up as to whether this would set a precedent?

**Motion #2 – 9/07:** that we consider this a division within a member company; that we bring in both companies on equal footing and they both perform and be evaluated at Festival 2008.

Debra Rogo / Susan Sandri

Abstention – 3

Motion carries

**Craft of Choreography Conference 2007** – Debra Rogo - See attached report

- 6 dancers did Student choreographer/Dancer Track
- They would have liked to be able to attend critiques in evening but as they are also dancers, not a good idea as choreographers sometimes talk about dancers.
- Guest choreographers – had 6. They did not come through RDA, applied with video tape and paid own money
- They wanted more time. If we do it again only, we would only have five guest choreographers.
- Need more involvement from RDA Artistic Directors – there was not enough help.
- There were 4 artistic directors – one from each region as well as Debra. Their room and board was paid by national board.

**Membership Report** – Debra Rogo – See attached report

- City Youth Ballet – passed out their letter
- Needs two directors to visit them – Diane Cypher or Robert and Ann & Zoura, as well as Allyson Deane
- They want to be on the adjudication tour – David would need to schedule and it's easier to take them out than put them into the tour later.
- Has sent out 9 letters to California companies
- Zoura has agreed to help Debra as Debra feels overwhelmed.
- Debra would like to use her committee to help – each committee member has agreed to help

**Festival Evaluation & Festival 2007 Wrap-Up:** Diane Cypher

- There was no festival evaluation form this year as it was a national festival.
- Go to the national website to fill out survey
- A reminder to please turn information in on time – at least 2 weeks prior to deadline

**Review:** – Barbara Crockett - No report

- Just remind us that we are all in charge of dancers - each of us can step in and take care of any situation caused by dancers
- A comment was made regarding security at hotel – tape dancer's doors so you know if they've left or not

**Historian:** – Fred Shadle -No report

**Goals Report:** – Susan Sandri

- Read through report together and made recommendations
- We need someone to do PR work for the Pacific region
- immediate goal is to create a committee chair to handle PR
- Will work on five and ten year goals as well as two year goals
- Still try to find health, life and liability insurance for member companies

**Goals Committee:** Susan Sandri - Chair, Patricia Stander, Lawan Morrison

**Action Item:** Goals committee to create a committee chair to handle PR

**Hospitality:** – Diane Lauridsen

- Approached everyone at National Festival and connected with a number of people
- They were all given information and introduced to others.

**Standards** – Diane Lauridsen – See attached report

- 2007 Honor Companies – Ballet Yuma; Crockett-Deane Ballet; Long Beach Ballet; Mid-Columbia Ballet; Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre; South Bay Ballet; State Street Ballet Young Dancers; Utah Regional Ballet II

**Flooring/Insurance** – Diane Cypher

- Has heard from 3 people.
- Ann will work on flooring report and give to Diane Cypher.
- Insurance: let Diane know if you're happy with your insurance or not and what you'd like to see for us.

**Music Rights Committee** – Deborah Hadley, Patricia Stander, Robert Kelley, Chris Tabor

- What does David need for this year for music rights?
- The Long Beach Theater doesn't ask for rights and he's worked there for 12 years.
- Helen's theatre is asking for music rights.

**Action Item:** Music Rights will report in spring 2008

**Coordinator's Report** – Kathleen Sinclair

See attached report

- Has interim budget for Craft but no other treasurer's report – will have after our October meetings and will send out a report by email to all of us
- How soon should we hold another national festival – not in five years – we want ten years
- We would like music rights be worked out festival wide before we commit to anything.
- Fabulous and exciting festival
- Food situation was awful – any new venue needs to make sure that is handled better

**Motion #3 – 9/07:** The Pacific Region recommends that their coordinators request consideration by the National Board of a financial share of the surplus funds from the National Festival due to the work share of each region toward the organization and ultimate success of the festival

Helen Wilkins / Patricia Stander

1 opposed

Motion carries

**Scholarships:** – Diane Lauridsen

- \$30,399.00 total scholarships awarded
- \$11,950.00 in Craft of Choreography Scholarships

**Rules Review & Adjudicator Report** – Barbara Crockett - No report

**By-Laws & Standing Rules** – Terri Miley

- Terri passed out changes – please put in your binders

**Membership Issue**

- City Youth Ballet – Membership needs to approve their joining. We will view DVD during lunch and then vote.

**Dress Code Discussion**

**Motion #4 – 9/07:** that we allow black jazz pants or shorts or black tights with a black leotard to be worn during modern or jazz classes at our festivals.

Debra Rogo / Jan Hurst

Motion carries

**Motion #5 – 9/07:** that our adjudication report be sent via email only and with no follow up paper copy unless requested.

Debra Rogo / Ann Derby

Motion carries

**Action Item:** Secretary to send report to those directors who need a paper copy.

**Action Item:** Chair request that when you send out emails that a receipt be requested so that sender knows if email was received.

**Adjudicator** - Alaine Haubert

- Introductions were made.
- Alaine is very excited to see the changes and progress in our companies.
- Feels that our adjudication process is one of the most valuable she has come across. ABT is on a path to help with the education of standardizing dance through syllabus, educating the public, etc.
- When she adjudicates and comes to our studios – her approach will be two-pronged and focused on 1. The education and teaching and 2. The creativity.
- Class should be at least an hour.
- Please no ham or pork –she will get ill

**Action Item:** Directors – please read the adjudicator guidelines

**Festival 2008** – David Wilcox

- Will be doing forms online.
- Deposit of 12 kits - \$2,292.00 is due by February 1, 2008 and Adjudication form due.
- Adjudication tour – March 1-15 –programming must be due to David by March 25 – 7-10 days after tour concludes and report due 3 weeks after tour
- 200 rooms in hotel – can put 500 – 550 in hotel
- It is more expensive to have 3 in a room rather than 4

**Festival 2011** – Diane Lauridsen

**Motion:** that South Bay Ballet be allowed to host Festival 2011

Ann Derby / Lawan Morrison

Motion carries

**Festival 2009** – Shauna Peterson for Jackie Colledge

- Trying to get Marriot in Provo - \$119.00 per night plus tax with 4 in a room
- Covey Center for the Arts – stage is 50x37
- There are 3 studios and is trying to arrange everything within walking distance
- Has spoken to Alun Hinline to adjudicate and he has agreed if we agree

**Motion #6 – 9/07:** That Alun Hinline adjudicate Festival 2009

Debra Rogo / Diane Cypher

Abstention – 1

Motion fails

- Also trying to get a bid from the Hampton Inn
- There will be more information in the spring

**Motion #7 – 9/07:** that Nicolas Ade to be adjudicator for Festival 2010

Debra Rogo / Lawan Morrison

- Table until tomorrow morning
- Debra will bring in his bio and we will vote tomorrow am

There was discussion started on the issue was brought regarding people being late to meetings, leaving meetings early or not attending board meetings.

Meeting adjourned

3:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Derby

Secretary

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**Call to Order:** 9:05

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**Door Prize:** Nicole Comela - See attached report

- 2007 Door Prize monies - \$3300.00
- Please sign up for minimum of 120 tickets for Festival 2008.
- We need prizes but you do have the option of bringing \$50 to go directly to scholarships.
- Diane Lauridsen suggested talking to Matt at Alvas for prize

**Continuation of Festival 2008 – David Wilcox**

- Faculty to date – Laura Alonso, Nader Hamed, Gelsey Kirkland, Colleen Neary, Alexander Kalinin (Character), Jeffrey Page (African), Joe Istre (Jazz), Robyn Brawley (Lyrical). Karen Clippinger (seminar). She is a former PNB dancer, and the seminar would be on feet and ankles, pt etc. She does a seminar on criteria for when to put a dancer on pointe (good teacher seminar)
- 3 classes per day
- Wants a surprise performance with all of us involved – “So you think you can Dance” format – be a lighthearted way to open festival.
- Would like to have three performances and have emerging works on each night – each performance equal and each with a celebrity MC. Have video screen with short documentary of each piece an interview of choreographer and director. Introduced to audience before each piece
- The question was raised as to how long would it make the performances

**Festival Committee – last 3 hosts plus presiding officer**

David has spoken with Alaine Haubert – and she would like to put emerging works among the three performances

**Motion 8 – 9/07:** that the emerging concert works for Festival 2008 be divided among the three equal public performances and be placed at the beginning of each program.  
David Wilcox / Diane Lauridsen

## Motion carries

- The national RDA board meeting has an annual spring rotation of meetings at festivals and 2008 will be at Festival 2008 in Long Beach, CA
- The hotel property has been sold and the hotel is being torn down and condos built. The hotel has said that the hot water issues, sidewalks, clean carpets will be dealt with before our arrival in May 2008.
- A number of directors felt that security was a major issue – David will make sure that there is enough security.
- Saturday night will be the biggest issue due to the nightclub.
- Disneyland option - Sunday am breakfast at hotel - bus to Disneyland then back to hotel and leave Monday am

Jan Hurst - will mentor John Gardner and Pacific Festival Ballet

Kathleen Sinclair - will mentor Lynn Tabor and Portland Youth Ballet

## **Festival 2010 – Debra Rogo**

**Motion 9 – 9/07:** that Nicolas Ade be Adjudicator for Festival 2010

Debra Rogo / Nicole Comela

Motion carries

## **Old Business**

**Costume and Set inventory – Allyson Deane - nothing to report**

## **Membership Issues – Debra Rogo**

- In order for City Youth Ballet to attend Festival 2008 as a new company - membership has to give their approval contingent upon directors holding an evaluation

**Motion 10 – 9/07:** that we accept City Youth Ballet as a new company member contingent upon the evaluation of the membership committee and that the membership has two weeks to respond by email to any issue regarding the company.

Debra Rogo/ Diane Lauridsen

Discussion regarding having to wait two weeks

Withdrawal of motion

- There will be an evaluation of City Youth ballet within two weeks. If you have any issues with the company you must contact the membership chair with any concerns.

**Guest companies:** Membership chair needs permission from membership to invite companies

- Diane Lauridsen spoke regarding Colleen O’Callaghan – Ballet Ventura. They are interested in being in RDA and would like to come as a guest company.
- We have no criteria regarding coming as a guest company except that they have a consultation. Diane Lauridsen has done that.
- They cannot perform or audition and they are in the Apprentice track

**Motion 10 – 9/07:** that Ballet Ventura be invited as a guest company for Festival 2008 and that current members have priority hotel lodging

Jan Hurst / Debra Rogo

Motion carries

Ballet Repertory Ballet in Huntington Beach is very interested in being a guest

**Motion #11 – 9/07:**that Ballet Repertory Ballet Huntington Beach be invited to be a guest company at Festival 2008

David Wilcox / Debra Rogo

Motion carries

Debra to work on crib sheet for membership process

**Website:** David Wilcox

- Need pictures of companies – please send to David
- To get into director's page – click on dancer in logo
- Will put by-laws on website, minutes etc.
- Registration for Festival 2008 will be on website. It will need a space for registration of Observers.
- Chaperones are observers – observers are not chaperones

**Scholarship Issue** – Diane Lauridsen

- Conflict re: professional people who come to give scholarships at festival.
- Has a budget to bring people, airfare, hotel etc. Many would like to come if they can teach and have said they might give a better scholarship if they could teach at festival.
- Has had festival host pay for teaching and scholarship chair paid for airfare
- It was felt that the airfare or transportation and packet should be paid by scholarship fund and that classes be paid for by festival host.

**Motion #12 – 9/07:** that RDA/P scholarship VIP's visiting a festival for purpose of recruitment, may teach a maximum of two classes to be paid by the host and that scholarship committee pays for all other expenses.

David Wilcox / Jan Hurst

Motion carries

Diane would like to raise the budget for scholarship monies for recruiters etc.

**Motion #13 – 9/07:** that the VIP scholarship budget for festival line item be \$3000

Jan Hurst / Lawan Morrison

Motion carries

**New Business**

Proxy procedure

- Director can do a proxy for a board meeting but cannot send an individual for board meetings.
- Must be by email and sent to presiding officer and secretary to be put in minutes

**Motion #14 – 9/07:** that board members who miss a board meeting be fined \$200.00 per occurrence and that directors or company representative who are late to membership meetings or leave early are fined \$150.00 per occurrence.

Ann Derby / Nicole Comela

Motion fails

In favor 6 / Opposed 7 / Abstained – 1

- Further discussion - that there be a \$50.00 fine for an increment of time, \$50.00 for each hour or ½ hour missed.
- That there be a provision for emergencies etc.
- Not fair – to pay a fine if there's no provision to have a representative on the board.
- However, the board holds financial responsibility for RDA/P

**Motion #15 – 9/07:** for the general membership meeting the company director or a designated company representative be present for the entire time of the meeting or incur a fine of \$150.00 to be paid to RDA/P. A proxy may not be used for an entire meeting session.

Jan Hurst / Debra Rogo

Motion carries

Board meeting issues to be talked about in the spring

Kathleen will be leaving Friday am during Festival 2008 – Emma Cong will represent her. She would like her company to perform on Thursday night. The National board is meeting here during Festival 2008 but the Alternate Coordinator – Diane Lauridsen could attend and can share the job with Barbara Crockett, Debra Rogo or Ann Derby for Kathleen

Coordinate national board meetings with Allison and David

Nominating Committee: Zoura – chair with Jan and Lawan

When a company director is making a motion that the member write out the motion and give to the Secretary

Debra Hadley suggested using the winner of the Emerging Choreographer – to set a work on the host company and that it be presented during the festival's opening ceremony

Table until next year.

**Motion #16 – 9/07:** that our two Directors at Large and Director Emeritus receive \$500.00 each to attend the RDA national meetings in October 2007.

Diane Cypher / Jan Hurst

Motion carries

David showed a lovely bag with a tutu hanger that was a gift to each director

Susan Sandri and Ann and Zoura will bring a proposal for Fall 08 meetings, Whidbey Island and San Francisco.

**Adjudication Tour** – Alaine Haubert

- Discussed and finalized tour and times
- Alaine Haubert – 562-335-1023 (cell)

Adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted  
Ann Derby  
Secretary